



Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

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P-IE Governing Council

David Onstad

President,
dwonstad@gmail.com

Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris

Vice President,
rebecca.schmidt@usda.gov

Surendra Dara

Vice President-Elect,
skdara@ucanr.edu

Anjel Helms

Secretary,
anjel.helms@gmail.com

Lina Bernaola

Treasurer,
linabernaola@gmail.com

Jeff Bradshaw

Past President,
jbradshaw2@unl.edu

Melissa Willrich Siebert

ESA Governing Board Representative,
melissa.siebert@corteva.com

Michelle Boone

Student Representative,
boon0086@umn.edu

Nicholas Larson

Early-Career Professional Representative,
nicholas.larson@ars.usda.gov



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P-IE Representatives Needed for Award Judging Panels

Rob Morrison, P-IE Representative on the ESA Awards Committee, is seeking volunteers from the P-IE membership to fill five vacancies on the judging panels for ESA Awards. Committees with vacancies and their term lengths are:

- **Nan-Yao Su Award (2-year term)**
- **ECP Research Award (2-year term)**
- **ECP Teaching Award (2-year term)**
- **Alate Award (3-year term)**
- **Distinguished Achievement Award in the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion in the Field of Entomology (3-year term)**

Entomologists from underrepresented groups in STEM are strongly encouraged to apply. Deadline to express interest is by May 10th. If you are interested in filling one of the vacancies, please 1) note in which one you are interested, 2) submit a brief statement of interest (2-3 sentences), 3) summarize prior service to ESA (if any), and 4) provide your current position and affiliation in an email to the P-IE Rep on the Awards & Honors Committee, Dr. Rob Morrison (william.morrison@usda.gov). Please, be sure to put "Interest in Awards P-IE Rep Vacancy" in the subject line. Final decisions will be made in mid-May by the Awards & Honors Committee to ensure committees are balanced.

P-IE Governing Council Approves Policies and Procedures Document

The Governing Council now has an official document that describes important guiding principles, the structure and function of committees, and procedures that the GC and our representatives on ESA committees should follow. To find a copy of the new document, go to the Governance section at <https://www.entsoc.org/pie>. We encourage potential nominees for GC and committee positions to read this document to learn more about these opportunities.

P-IE Webinar: Catch it again on Replay!

On March 18th, the P-IE Section Governing Council hosted a webinar on the history of ESA Sections and an overview of the P-IE Section – what we do, our structure, committees, our activities – all in an effort to build awareness for our membership. A recording of the webinar is placed on the ESA YouTube channel which can be reached at <https://youtu.be/MiuXko89DSE>



Why Sections?

- Be selected to win **awards and scholarships** given out by your Section (and only available to Section members).
- Develop their **leadership experience** by participating on Section leadership and committees.
- Organize and propose **Section-specific symposia** during ESA annual meetings.
- Meet and connect through **Section forums** with other ESA members who have similar specialized interests.
- Attend **Section mixers and receptions** at the ESA annual meeting.
- Run for national office or serve on a national committee of the Society as a **Section representative**.

Call for Award Nominations

Consider nominating a student or colleague for a Section award (<https://www.entsoc.org/pie/awards>)

Student Awards – deadline of 1 June

- Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology
- Master's Student Achievement in Entomology
- Kenneth and Barbara Starks Plant Resistance to Insects Award

Professional Awards– deadline of 1 July

- P-IE Lifetime Achievement Award in Entomology
- P-IE Recognition Award in Entomology (Sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection)
- IPM Team Award (Sponsored by Corteva Agriscience)

Summer Elections

Nominations for the following Section positions are **due 1 June**.

Governing Council

- P-IE Section Vice President-Elect (4-year term)
- P-IE Section ECP Representative to the Governing Council (3-year term) *Candidates must be current student transition or early professional members at the time of election.*
- P-IE Section Governing Board Representative (3-year term)

ESA Committee

- P-IE Representative to Publications Council (4-year term)

To learn about the responsibilities of the three Governing Council members, see our Policies and Procedures document in the Governance section at <https://www.entsoc.org/pie>. To submit a nomination see <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/6a57ede8a9f64da4b1a050a62c7c32f4>

New P-IE Committee to Lead Communication Efforts



The P-IE Governing Council has created a new Communications Committee to disseminate important ESA updates and increase engagement across the P-IE membership. We will help (1) produce the newsletter, (2) develop articles for *American Entomologist*, (3) contribute to the ESA news emails, (4) promote and maintain P-IE websites, (5) be active on social media, and (6) take and implement suggestions so you, our members, will feel more engaged and included in our section. Our committee will work closely with ESA staff to make sure deadlines and requirements are met for any and all communication efforts. **Have a story you want to share with the P-IE membership? Reach out to the out new communications chair, Kacie Athey, at kathey@illinois.edu.**

Recent Activities of the ESA Liaison to the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP)

The EPA OPP is interested in presenting quarterly webinars about sundry insect/insecticide issues. They would like to invite an ESA member who has expertise about a particular subject to make the webinar presentation. EPA OPP would like the first webinar to be a discussion of tick and flea insecticide products. The news media have recently reported that hundreds of pet owners have complained about acute toxicity symptoms associated with use of the collar product Seresto (combination of imidacloprid and flumethrin; see USA Today report <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2021/03/02/seresto-dog-cat-collars-found-harm-pets-humans-epa-records-show/4574753001/>).

In other news, EPA has issued a draft registration decision approving use of a new product containing the active ingredients cyclaniliprole and flonicamid for residential outdoor use on ornamentals, including non-fruit bearing trees. These insecticides can target selectively phloem feeding insects. EPA is seeking comments on its draft decision and pointed out specific ecological risks of concern, including a pollinator advisory and ground and surface water advisories of potential hazards. Both of these insecticides fit into the umbrella of “reduced risk” insecticides owing to their high selectivity for phloem feeders and very low toxicity to non-target organisms, including humans. The EPA announcement with links to the registration decision memo and supporting documents can be accessed at URL <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-proposes-conditionally-register-combination-insecticide-residential-outdoor-use>. Comments are being accepted until May 8, 2021.

Please feel free to forward any queries about EPA OPP activities to me, Allan Felsot (afelsot@wsu.edu), including questions or concerns that you would like to bring up for discussion with EPA OPP staff.



We want to put you in the spotlight!

The Communications Committee wants to feature your research and/or extension efforts in future newsletters! Please contact Kacie Athey (kathey@illinois.edu), if you're interested in sharing your story with fellow P-IE members.